

From: Nate Berry
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 10:35pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I wanted to take a second out of my busy day to let you know that I am absolutely flabbergasted that Microsoft is getting out of this horrendously expensive affair with a slap on the wrist.

And to allow them to gain further foothold in our schools and call that compensation. What kind of settlement is that? As a grad student, I can say that students would benefit far more with access to an open source OS in their schools. By being able to read, tweak, change and basically fiddle with the operating system, they will build a far greater understanding of the underlying processes that make a computer work. If this software were Linux or BSD, this software is free and without license fees.

In light of the fact that Microsoft has ALREADY been proven to have engaged in unfair business practices, a more fair settlement might be to have Microsoft supply the hardware for underprivileged schools and let an open source vendor supply the software.

Yes Microsoft is dominant now in the industry, lets not reward them for the unfair manner in which they gained that position.

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